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Letters

Violence is official Soviet policy

Prof. S. Titarenko's Jan. 5 letter to the editor criticized an Albert L. Weeks column that appeared in Nov. 1984. His letter, too, deserves some criticism for what it leaves unsaid.

Mr. Titarenko explained away the documentary support Mr. Weeks used in his article while at the same time giving the impression the Soviet Union does not sanction terrorism or the overthrow of established governments.

Mr. Titarenko said it was "ridiculous" to compare the needs of Marxist revolution with "CIA-drafted methods of overthrowing revolutionary governments." Implicit was the notion governments overthrown by Marxist-drafted methods are somehow acceptable. In fact the Soviet Union officially supports the use of war, terror, and violence to overthrow governments.

Mr. Lenin's support of terror is unequivocal: "A revolution is upon the other part by means of rifles, bayonets, and cannon — authoritative means . . . and it must maintain this rule by terror."

Why does the Soviet Union support revolutionary war, terror, and violence? G. Arbatov, director of Soviet Institute of United States and Canada, made it clear in his 1973 book, *The War Of Ideas In Contemporary International Relations*. He said "... the pivot of the struggle . . . has become the contradiction between the two world systems . . . It is an antagonistic struggle which leads not to any reciprocal drawing together or even fusion of the two systems, as is maintained by the exponents of the 'convergence' theory, but to the victory of the most advanced system, socialism." It is

needed to win.

If world "peace" is the goal of the Soviet Union, Mr. Titarenko should explain to us why it needs to support war, terror, and violence to achieve it.

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